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ADDRESS

OF THE

GENERAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF THE

AMERICAN REPUBLICAN PARTY

OF THE

CITY OF NEW-YORK,

TO THE

PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES.

"Ourselves our own Sovereigns."—OURSELVES.
"Place none but Americans on guard to-night."—WASHINGTON.

NEW-YORK:
PRINTED BY J. F. TROW & CO.,
No. 33 ANN-STREET.
1845.

MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICAN PARTY OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK.

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LORA NASH, Vice-President.
WM. L. PRALL, Recording Secretary.

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William L. Prall, 94 Allen-street.
Isaac S. Smith, 384 Broome-street.
William F. Piatt, 232 Canal-street.
Jonas Humbert, jr., 145 Bowery.
James C. Forrester, Corresponding Secretary, 202 Bleecker-st.

NAMES OF THE MEMBERS.

1st Ward. Lora Nash, 8 Pearl-st.
" Edward Prime, 1 Broadway.
" Asa B. Perkins, 45 Broadway.
2d Ward. George Seeley, 309 Pearl-st.
" A. G. Thompson, jr., 83 Beekman-st.
" Edw. C. Boughton, 53 Beekman-st.
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" Geo. W. Morton, 108 1-2 Chapel-st.
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" Benj. Perrine, 119 Columbia-st.
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12th Ward. Wm. Baker, corner 8th Avenue and Forty-seventh-st.
" John Meggs, 129th-st. between 4th and 5th Avenues.
" John B. Morrell, 3d Av. near 51stst
13th Ward. Eli Leavitt, 468 Grand, cor. Sheriff.
" John B. Dennis, 123 Grand-st.
" John F. Trow, 16 Columbia-st.
14th Ward. William S. Ross, 206 Centre-st.
" Benjamin R. Thoall, 186 Grand-st.
" Isaac S. Smith, 384 Broome-st.
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" Robert H. Taylor, 220 Sullivan-st.
16th Ward. Theo. Nimms, 217 Third Avenue.
" J. Kelly, Treas. 208 West 19th-st.
" Joseph B. Stansbury, 3d Avenue, one door below 34th-st.
17th Ward. Benjamin Merritt, 163 Suffolk-st.
" Horatio P. Allen, 129 Tenth-st.
" Walter Briggs, 191 Ninth-st.

N. B.—The General Executive Committee of the American Republican Party of the City of New-York will at all times readily afford such documents and information as shall be in their power, to either individuals or associations throughout the country.

Address (post paid) either of the Corresponding Committee.

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ADDRESS.

Americans, Countrymen and Friends:

We have arrived at a period in the existence of our nation, at an ERA in the Political History and Civil Economy of our Government, more pregnant with weal or wo to the Institutions of our Land, than ever awaited the fate of the Republics of antiquity, or any of the freer countries of Modern Europe. Time or circumstance has never before suspended over the destinies of any government so certain and serious evils as now threaten the future prosperity of our nation, and the consequent welfare of our people. And the final, fatal ultimate of all which, can only be arrested by the immediate, firm, and uncompromising ACTION of the *Great American Republican People.* These evils are of a deep and subtle character, silent in their operation, accumulating in their nature, and of an order alike with those from which the liberal governments of the Old World have gone to ruin. The time has arrived when these evils have assumed such a magnitude as to alarm the sentinels of our free institutions, and arouse the guardians of our civil rights. The People—the great American People, have awoke to the dangers with which their sacred legacy of Liberty is surrounded, and determined to vindicate their rights, and perpetuate their civil and religious institutions.

Under such circumstances, and with these views, the General Executive Committee of the American Republican Party of the City of New-York, desirous that the citizens, native and adopted, not only of our own City and State, but of the whole UNITED STATES, should be fully and TRULY acquainted with the principles which we entertain, have herewith published a brief exposition of our political Faith and Creed—*so far as seems at present to be demanded.* This manner of giving a greater and more reliable publicity to so much of our policy and purpose as is herein contained, has been resorted to for the reason, that the partizan papers and political demagogues of the adverse parties of the day, have resorted to almost every means by which to falsify our measures, and impugn our motives. The object and end of their unwarrantable opposition, is to anticipate and prejudice the reception of our principles by those of our fellow-citizens, who have never yet been correctly advised of what our measures are, and in what manner and respect we differ from the other political bodies of the time.

To those whose knowledge of the Political Creed of the American Republican Party is such only as has been obtained from our political foes, this paper is respectfully dedicated: and if, after reading it, it is

judged that our principles are not consistent with the good of our common country, and do not accord with the character of our people, and the genius of our institutions, no support is desired; while, on the contrary, if they commend themselves to the true friends of our religious, civil, and political institutions, as better worthy of their approval and entertainment, than the cant professions of either of the other political parties, a support of these principles is earnestly solicited.

The first, and probably most ostensible principle of the American Republican Party is, that the Naturalization Laws should be so altered as to make it necessary for all persons of foreign birth to reside at least TWENTY-ONE YEARS in the United States, before they should be entitled to the privilege of the *elective franchise*—that the right to NATURALIZE should be HELD and EXERCISED by the UNITED STATES COURTS ONLY,—that no State, County or other Court, or Institution, should have power to confer citizenship upon the alien born; and that, while the States have the right to make their own conditions respectively, upon which to franchise their citizens, yet no State shall have the power to confer the right to vote upon any of its inhabitants who may have been born without the United States, until *after* they shall have been naturalized under a Law of Congress, as above stated. If it be argued that States are sovereignties, and that *Congress*, under our present Constitution, *cannot* control the decision of any State as to whom of its inhabitants may or may not enjoy the elective franchise, we reply THAT THEN OUR CONSTITUTION MUST BE AMENDED IN THIS PARTICULAR MATTER. Even a REPEAL of the Naturalization Laws will not avail any thing so long as the several States exercise the power they now hold under the Constitution, which enables them to confer the right of franchise upon all persons of foreign birth, whether naturalized or not, entirely regardless of the time they may have been in the country. From this it will be seen, that while we may interpose a *partial* check to the evils of foreign influence through our State Legislatures, yet our only true, complete, and final remedy is in such an amendment of the United States Constitution as shall take from the individual States the power to franchise aliens, until *after* they shall have been naturalized in the way and manner before stated.

Let not this be considered too mighty a task to be accomplished—THERE IS NO OTHER ALTERNATIVE FOR US. We must to the work at once, ever holding the character and necessity of the amendment to be of a thousand-fold sufficient importance to warrant the undertaking, justify the means, and secure the consummation. Let no American, *of whatever creed or party*, who values the Institution of his birthright, and wishes to maintain inviolate the Liberty of his country, withhold his hand from this important revision of that otherwise most perfect charter of our Freedom.

The times are auspicious for the work! the great Public Pulse

beats high on the subject. *Something must be done or our country is lost*—and done, too, immediately. Delay but augments the task, already too herculean to perform for any other purpose than the salvation of the Institutions of our Land. Let every American freeman throughout the whole Union, who is now enjoying the life-bought independence of our country, REFLECT, RESOLVE, and ACT upon this great subject as his own judgment may dictate, and his love of country determine.

An opinion is entertained by many that it is ONLY necessary for Congress to *extend the term of naturalization*, whereby to prevent foreigners from voting until after a residence of twenty-one years in this country. THIS IS A MOST SERIOUS MISTAKE, as a careful reading of the preceding brief, but correct exposition of the matter must show. It must therefore be apparent to all, that our only TRUE remedy against an undue interference with our institutions by the almost innumerable masses of foreigners who are yearly brought to our country, is *alone*, First, IN THE EXTENSION OF THE TERM OF NATURALIZATION FROM FIVE, TO TWENTY-ONE YEARS. Second, IN LIMITING THE POWER TO NATURALIZE TO THE UNITED STATES COURTS ONLY: and, Third, IN SO AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION OF THE U. S. AS TO REMOVE FROM THE INDIVIDUAL STATES THE RIGHT TO FRANCHISE ANY OF THEIR FOREIGN-BORN INHABITANTS, UNTIL AFTER THEY SHALL HAVE BEEN NATURALIZED.

The American Republican Party—a party, the nucleus of whose formation is of little more than a year's date; but the necessity of whose existence finds an *earnest* affirmation in the heart of every true American, and the future supremacy of whose position is now unalterably fixed, as a consequence made certain by the character of the cause, has entered upon a high and important work—a work comprising not only the task of directing and controlling the Laws, Rights, and Obligations of our Institutions, as they now exist, but also upon a more sacred and, we may add, *necessary* duty, which is fearlessly to examine the "whole body of our government," and to introduce into it, *with extreme prudence and care*, all such reformations, of whatever character, as are, at this eventful period in our nation's history, indispensable to the perpetuity of the liberties, and productive of the future glory and welfare, of our people. And we desire here to state, that by such a resolution we do not mean to reflect in the least degree upon the wisdom and patriotism of the immortal founders of our institutions, or upon the integrity and ability of those who have from time to time performed the duties of their administration; far, *very* far from it. We only wish to say, that time and circumstances have created certain evils in our government, which the great wisdom of our fathers could not have anticipated, nor their devoted patriotism have foreseen; and it is for the suppression of these evils, that some amendment in the fundamental laws of our government is absolutely necessary. These amendments may be

made without the least possible danger to our liberties; and without such amendments, there is serious cause to fear that the evils complained of, will ultimately produce an irreparable ruin to the whole great fabric of our government.

Entertaining views and sentiments, upon which rests the NECESSITY of these proposed amendments to the Constitution, the members of the American Republican Party are charged by adverse political demagogues, not only with distant, unkind, and hostile feelings toward foreigners, but also with an effort to wrest from them their religious, civil, and political rights; every charge of which is false. And it is as certainly true that a majority of those who make them, are, for selfish ends, foes to the real interest of this Government, or that they are hypocrites in their loud professions of regard for the foreigner's rights.

The members of the American Republican Party profess to be, and are, full as ready, and with a more honest purpose, to extend the hand of hearty welcome to all worthy foreigners who come among us, as the most ultra Whig or Democratic partizan, who, for party purposes, professes to be so regardful of the foreigner's claims to political privileges. We are NOT the enemies of foreigners, nor unwilling to see them come to our country to live among us. We have no disposition whatever to proscribe them from the full and free exercise of all the privileges and advantages of our common country, which we ourselves enjoy; nor have we any desire to do violence to any of the civil or religious rights "which the laws of nature and nature's God entitle them to;" on the contrary, we are willing and anxious that all the blessings of our institutions, the full protection of our laws, and the favors of our political compact, shall be as fully, fairly, and freely extended to those of foreign birth, as to the native-born. We are desirous that all the avenues to wealth, prosperity, and happiness, shall be as widely opened to them as to us; and that the individual rights, relations, and obligations of our social communities, shall be as kindly and scrupulously observed between foreigner and native, as between natives themselves. In a word, *that we shall be one people*, possessing and enjoying the same privileges, interests and rights, *excepting only the privilege of the elective franchise*, which it is proposed to withhold from the foreigner until he has resided among us the term of TWENTY-ONE YEARS. And this exception is made upon the conviction that the nature and character of our institutions absolutely forbid that they should be *too soon*, even in part, entrusted to the care and control of a class of persons who, though ever so honest and well-disposed *are of foreign birth, allegiance, prejudice, and political education;* and who, as JEFFERSON in his Notes on Virginia, truly expresses it, "bring with them the PRINCIPLES of the government they leave, *imbibed in early youth*, and in proportion as they share with us in legislation, will infuse into it their SPIRIT, *warp* and *bias* its directions, and render it a *heterogeneous, incoherent, distracted mass.*"

We do not contend but that the foreign, as well as the native-born citizen has a right to participate in the legislation and administration of the laws that govern him; but we *do* contend that the peculiar form and nature of our government require that that right should not be extended to the foreigner until he has resided among us, not only long enough to learn the letter of our Constitution and spirit of our laws, but until he shall have had sufficient time *completely* and *entirely* to divest himself of all prejudice for the government and country of his birth and education, and to have become so incorporated with the genius of our institutions—so imbued with a love for our country, and so identified with the welfare and perpetuity of our government, as to be in *spirit* and in *fact*, as truly an American as though to the "manor born." *Then, and not till then*, should the foreigner be privileged to take a part either in making or administering the laws by which the people of *this Country* are governed.

Not only do all the thoughtful and jealous native-born friends of our free institutions concur in this view of a foreigner's rights and privileges, *as they stand connected with our government*, but also, to their honor, do a majority of the intelligent and well disposed of our *foreign*-born citizens.

The members of the Convention who framed and signed the Constitution of these United States long and earnestly discussed the question relative to the time necessary for naturalization—many believing that the time should be specified in the Constitution; and among those, there were *none* who contended for a *less* term than *fourteen years*, nor any for a greater than *twenty-one;* while there was another part of the members who held that the whole matter should be left for the *future decision* of the people, they arguing that it was THEN desirable to populate this country as fast as possible; and as a greater means to that end, it would be the POLICY of Congress and the States, *for the first few ensuing years* ONLY to make the term as brief as possible—leaving it in the power of the PEOPLE, *at any future time*, to extend the term, as prudence and a jealous regard for the safety and perpetuity of the Republic might demand.

Such, *and such only*, were the views and opinions held and expressed by the sage authors of that mighty base upon which rests the whole fabric of our government.

If violence be done the political rights of the foreigner by denying him the privilege of voting until after a residence in this country of twenty-one years, then also is the same violence, in principle, done him by a refusal of that right for *five* years; and if it be proscription to deny him eligibility to office under twenty-one years, how much greater is the wrong done him by a refusal altogether of an election to the Chief Magistracy of the Union, or to the Gubernatorial Chair of seven of the States of our confederation.

But we affirm that in *neither case* is there any just right or en-

titled privileges withheld from the foreigner. *The true science of politics*, with us, *is based upon the great question from which the term is derived, viz., the best* POLICY *of maintaining and perpetuating our glorious republican form of government; and the elective franchise is the "Inalienable Right"* OF THOSE, AND THOSE ONLY, *who, by birth, education, and love of liberty, are prepared and disposed to exercise it to that end.*

A distinguished historian, (Mach. Disc. 1, cap. vi.) in assigning a reason for the great duration of the VENETIAN REPUBLIC, says that "When they thought they were in sufficient numbers to maintain the commonwealth, they *prevented all others who came anew to inhabit there, from taking part in the Government.* This measure could be adopted and maintained without disturbance; because, when it was adopted, *whoever then inhabited the state* had a share in the administration, of which no one could complain; those *who came afterward* to dwell there, finding the state firmly established and the government settled, had neither cause nor opportunity for making disturbance. The cause did not exist, because *nothing had been taken from them.*"

Is it presumed by any sane mind that there is one to the thousand of the emigrants to our shores from the four winds of heaven, who is induced here by the privilege afforded them under our laws of voting within a few years after they have arrived? No, they come to this western New World for more necessary purposes. They come to meliorate their condition in life—to enjoy the providence of a kinder nature, to partake of the bounties of a better land, and to realize the benefits of the just and equal laws of our country. To all these and every other benefit and blessing of our land and institutions, they are MOST welcome. We say to the impoverished, down-trodden, and iron-ruled people of every nation, kindred, and tongue on the earth, come to our great and bountiful country; come, be fed, be clothed, be free, be happy; enjoy, with gratitude to heaven, the blessings of our Free Institutions, leaving their charge alone to us, that we may inviolably preserve them alike for their children and for ours, and so pass them down the current tide of American generations, until the evening vista of time shall lose them, and the morning lyre of Futurity pean their immortal qualities into the golden realms of man's higher and better condition hereafter.

There is one subject composing a part of the principles of this Party, on account of which they are most anxious to extend the time of naturalization. We allude to the union of Church and State—or at least *Religion and Politics.*

While this Party disclaims holding any more hostile feelings toward one SYSTEM of Christian Faith *as such*, than toward another, still we are frank to confess, that, judging from the past history of a certain Church in all ages of the European world, *and from the evidences of its character and purpose already exhibited in the United*

States, we are distrustful of the baneful influence it may exert over the politics of this country. It is not to be denied that we have among us a SYSTEM of Religion which is inimical to Political liberty, and it must also be admitted, that in all the nations of Europe, where that System has been the predominant religion of the State, the Church has always assumed the whole direction and control of the government. It has ever claimed and exercised the right of being, *at one and the same time*, the religious, civil, and political government of the people.

If this be so,—and if, too, it be the proud boast of this Church that her principles, policy, and purpose *have been*, and EVER *will be* THE SAME, —and if, also, the most superficial observer can look back among the nations of the Old World and *see ignorance*, *vice*, and *superstition* the peculiar characteristics of those people who have been crushed by the iron heel of her despotism, and who are still bending under the heavy hand of her Religious Oppression, is it not our bounden duty to use every possible means that shall tend to protect our own happy country from the withering embrace of her baneful influence?

A large majority of the emigrants to our shores (from Church-Ruled Countries,) are the ignorant, superstitious, excrescent population of those nations, all of whom acknowledge their highest obligations to a Foreign Sovereign, and all obedient to the mandate of a corrupt and designing priesthood; and it is for this, among other reasons, that we are desirous of so amending the Naturalization Laws, as shall, in some degree at least, protect our Institutions from the direful influence of a Political Church, and our Elections from the control of Sectarian Bishops.

We again emphatically declare—and hope to be so understood by both FRIEND and FOE—that as a Political Party, we entertain no unfriendly feelings whatever toward any *Religious Institution*, *disconnected with the politics of our country*, and which does not SEEK an alliance with matters of State; while, at the same time, we are at open hostility with ANY and ALL Religious *Churches*, *Sects*, and *Denominations*, of whatever *name* or *character*, that shall in *any manner*, or *for any purpose*, interfere with the political institutions of our land.

If it be said that our acts accord not with our words, i. that we have only, as yet, "assaulted one Denomination,"—our reply is simply and briefly—that it is *that* "Denomination" only, which has, as yet, given evidence of a serious interference with our civil polity, and of a design, ultima ely, to control our political institutions. And we add, with the same regard for our country's good, that, if any other sect of Christians shall as clearly evince a design to incorporate ecclesiastical tyranny with the government of this country, as we think the Church alluded to has, we shall as earnestly and uncompromisingly oppose the one as we do the other.

Our "*hostility*," "*proscription*," "*opposition*," "*intolerution*,"—(for such are the heresies with which we are charged)—extend *alike* to *any* and ALL Churches and Sects, just so far as they, or *any* of them, interfere with the civil or political matters of our Local, State, or General Government; *but no further*. Are we *right*, or are we *wrong*? Our sole object is to form a barrier high and eternal as the Andes, which shall forever separate the Church from the State. While we regard the religion of the Bible as the only legitimate element of civilized society, and the single basis of all good government, we are greatly opposed to the introduction of sectarian dogmas into the science of our civil institutions, or the incorporation of Church creeds into the political compact of our government.

We believe the Holy Bible, without sectarian note or comment, to be a most proper and necessary book, as well for our children as ourselves, and we are determined that they shall not be deprived of it, either *in*, or *out* of school. We reverence and regard every religious institution of our great community, and are disposed to extend a free and impartial toleration to All. But while we do this, it should be—MUST be—upon the condition that they, or any of them, shall not interfere with the civil and political departments of City, State, or Union. As friends and guardians of our national liberty, we say to All religious sects and denominations, keep within your own legitimate sphere of action, which is infinitely above the pale of politics, and we, the American Republican Party, under the Constitution of our fathers, stand pledged to tolerate, guard, and protect you all, even at the cost of home, country, and life. We, as a party, are the friends of ALL religious sects—the foe of NO denomination—nor the ally of ANY church. Let this be forever understood.

And here we would recommend to the people of the whole Union, that an AMERICAN REPUBLICAN UNITED STATES CONVENTION, consisting of FIVE DELEGATES from each Congressional District in each of the several States, be held in the CITY OF NEW-YORK on the FIRST and consecutive days of June, 1845, for the purpose of establishing a full and complete NATIONAL POLICY upon which to conduct the subsequent ACTION of the great American Republican Party; and until such Convention is held, it is hoped that no authoritative action will be taken by any part, or local branch of our party, upon any of the great National questions now before the country. It is expected and believed that an entire compliance will be made with this requirement, as a concert of purpose, an alliance of interest, and a union of strength, is indispensable to the full consummation of all the great objects of our party. Let the East, West North, and South, be heard singly, each for itself, and then will the East, West, North, and South, act together, EACH FOR ALL. Let the interest of every class of persons, every branch of business, and every section of our country, depend upon the general prosperity and welfare of each other.

One, among the many other objects of this party, is, to REFORM all the numerous orders of mal-administration and political mal-practices which exist in almost every department of our Federal, State, and Municipal Governments, and of which the people have so long and loudly complained. It will be our certain care to abolish altogether, throughout the whole country, all those unnecessary offices whose first cause of creation and only reason of existence, *was*, and *is*, that they serve as a means by which political aspirants, when elected to power, take money from the public purse to pay those who have most zealously pandered to their elevation.

It is the avowed intention of the American Republican Party to appoint *honest* and *capable* American citizens only, to the truly necessary offices of Government, and to administer the affairs of State with so strictly just and severely prudent a hand, as greatly to reduce the public expenditures.

It must be the great object of our party always to select good and true men for all the various offices throughout the country. Let them be men of strict fidelity, of sound judgment, of competent attainments, and of incorruptible integrity;—men who are fresh from the people, unused to party service, and strangers to political corruption; and especially let them be men of irreproachable moral character and sound political faith, being in each and in all the full and free embodiment of all the great measures of our party.

Wherever this party shall obtain dominion, whether in Federal, State, or local Government, especial care will be taken so to control and correct the sure and impartial administration of Justice as not to suffer the guilty to escape, nor, in any case, to wink at those crimes and frauds committed in "velvet and fine cloth, upon high places;" but, on the contrary, to inflict the same relative degree of punishment, *and with equal certainty*, upon the million-moneyed robber, who, whether under cover of incorporate privileges, or by what other means, swindles the community, robs the credulous, or beggars the widow and orphan, as that which is now so severely imposed upon the unfortunate and destitute, who, but too often, are forced to the commission of the smallest crimes by extreme penury and want.

Upon this great subject, the *true*, *fearless*, and IMPARTIAL legislation and administration of just and rightful laws, which indeed is the truest basis of all good government, and the surest conservation of all well-ordered society, this party promises to bestow, in both the State and National Legislatures, a most thoughtful and earnest attention, and to revise and adjust all such bills, statutes, codes, and rights of law, as do not accord with the present state and condition of the American people; and to re-construct all such courts, of both civil and criminal jurisprudence, as do not now afford *speedy* and *even-handed* justice alike to the poor man and the rich. It is a most monstrous fault with many of our courts of both Equity and Law, that JUSTICE, by

legalized, intricate, and complex orders and forms of law (all of which must be waded through at a heavy expense), is so far removed from the poor man as to render it impossible for him ever to obtain his rights. This is a serious evil, and the more especially so for the reason that it is an evil affecting the worth and virtue of one of the most sacred and important institutions of our country—the high and holy umpire of human Right and Wrong.

As far, in worth and virtue, as the great and holy character of our principles is above the sectional interests, local measures, and ephemeral policy of the belligerent political armies of the times, so far are we removed from these great contending bodies; and so far will we ever remain.

If any among us shall ever attempt, directly or indirectly, to form an alliance; connive at coalition; enter into any compromise, or grants or acknowledge any concession of principles, measures, policy, or men, with any other political party, they shall, by virtue of this solemn injunction, and the sacred sense of the great American Republican party, be deemed and held as traitors to our cause, and most base and insidious foes to the true success of our principles.

Our devotion is to the Flag of our Nation, the Institutions of our Fathers, and the Glory and happiness of our People. Our motto is, "Our Country!" and our rallying cry, "Still our Country!"

A thousand thanks to Heaven for the justice of our cause, and the success of our principles. The spirits of our fathers are among us, and the victory of their arms waits upon our efforts. "Righteous principles will penetrate where a phalanx of bayonets cannot enter, and a just cause will live where ships with cannon will not float."

We have an army of principles in the field, moving toward the Thermopylæ of our country, and an armada of efforts upon the wave, standing hard up for the Cyprus of our institutions. Our course is marked, and the consummation of our policy unalterably fixed. We have sworn never to turn to the right, and split our party upon the rocks of Scylla, nor to the left, and wreck our cause upon the shoals of Charybdis. Our march is onward, with VICTORY for our goal—our aspirations are upward, with EXCELSIOR for our polar star.

The aged preside at our councils, and the young give energy to our action. The patriotic congregate around our standard, and the good commend us to success. What have we to fear, and how shall we fail? If true to ourselves, we have nothing to fear; and if devoted to our cause, we can never fail.

We earnestly embrace this opportunity of establishing our name as a party, throughout the country, and the denomination by which ALONE we wish to be known in every State in the Union. The proper and legitimate name and denomination of our party is "AMERICAN REPUBLICAN," and NOT *Native American.* It was the name adopted by the few patriot spirits who first convened in the city of New York, a little over a year since, and formed the

embryo of our present great party. *Let it not be changed.* Besides, the term *Native* American is too limited, and we may add proscriptive, for the full embodiment of all the great objects and sentiments embraced within our cause. There are thousands, and we hope yet to see tens of thousands, in our ranks, who are NOT *native* Americans, because not born on the soil, but who are as good, true, and virtual American Republicans in principle, as any within the pale of our party. While policy dictates that we should be known ONLY as American Republicans, propriety most sternly FORBIDS that we shall be know n by any other name, and least of all by the term *native* American. Let us, then, throughout the whole country, recognize and acknowledge our name to be only that which it truly is, THE AMERICAN REPUBLICAN PARTY.

Toall foreign-born persons who are now in the United States, we say, it is not our wish or intention, to deprive *you* of any rights or privileges you may have already acquired under our laws. Even were it our wish to do so, we have not the power; we cannot pass, nor cause to be passed, a retrospective law; and hence cannot take any action, which will in any manner affect persons of foreign birth who are now in the country. The great purpose of our action is for the FUTURE only. Let all the foreign born citizens of our country, coming from whatever clime, remember this *great unchangeable principle* of our party.

With the past Presidential election we, *as a party*, have had nothing to do. At the *next* election for President, however, the members of the American Republican Party expect to place in the Chief Executive Chair of these United States, a Magistrate of their own party fealty and political faith—and by that time to be of sufficient strength and importance to control and decide all political questions, that may exist or arise in any State or section of our country.

The American Republican Party was first formed in this City a little over one year since. We now hold the City Government, and have just elected three Members to Congress, one to our State Senate, and thirteen Members to the Assembly. One Congressman and several Members of Assembly have been elected from adjoining counties. Philadelphia City has also recently elected two Members to Congress, one to the State Senate, and a full delegation to the Assembly; so it will be seen that already in this infancy of our party, we have a representation (and such a one too as will do credit to our party, and justice to our cause) in the great halls of our National Legislature, and a voice in the legislative councils of the Empire and Keystone States of the Union.

To those of our political faith and creed throughout the country, we say, ORGANIZE immediately. Call the people together; explain to them the principles of the American Republican Party. Let State Conventions be held, as soon as may be, in every State in the Union,

and let American Republican Associations be formed immediately, in every city, town, and village throughout the country. Let every other legitimate means be employed to disseminate our doctrines, extend our cause, and increase our strength.

Our object at present is to publish our sentiments as generally as possible, so that the great Public may decide upon their worth and virtue. Already are our principles upon the winds, extending themselves throughout the broad expanse of our common country. A large portion of our countrymen have caught the *electric fire*, and are now becoming sensible of the dangers with which their sacred legacy of liberty is surrounded, and the hazard to which their valued boon of civil rights is submitted. The American People, the whole country over, are coming forth to RESCUE, from the unhallowed hand of STRANGERS, and the arrogated power of FOREIGNERS, the right of creating their own RULERS, and deciding their own GREAT QUESTIONS of interest and polity.

United as a band of brothers, and strong as the armory of truth, the people of our land are coming from the sea-board plain, and mountain country—from the temperate East, and changeful West—from the balmy South, and clear, cold North—to congregate themselves around the GREAT ALTAR of their common country.

And yet it is not *alone* to correct the great evils complained of that the American People are arising in the majesty of their strength, and the magnitude of their numbers. The remedy of these evils, important as they may be, are but the primary objects of our action, the smaller causes of our revolution.

The members of the American Republican Party have yet a higher and holier ultimate in view—a nobler and more important object to attain. We wish, entirely, TO NATIONALIZE THE INSTITUTIONS OF OUR LAND, AND TO IDENTIFY OURSELVES ALONE WITH OUR COUNTRY; *to become a single, great people, distinct in national character, political interest, social and civil affinities, from all the other nations of the earth; and to pledge an eternal, unyielding devotion to the country of our birth, the altars of our fathers, and the home of our children; to declare an open and uncompromising war against all invasions of our rights as a people, or aggressions upon our institutions as a government.*

Why should not this be so, and why shall we not become a mighty people, and a distinct nation from all the world beside? We have a climate clear and healthful as either zone can give; a territory extending far and wide, limited only by the boundaries of nature; a country covered by a soil varied and productive as the eastern world can boast; a land of mighty lakes, and noble streams, down whose speeding waters the product of nations may safely float. We are more highly favored by a munificent Providence than any other nation on the earth, and the combination of industry

with Nature's provisions, will make us rich indeed. As a people we are distinguished in the arts, and have much credit for our knowledge of the sciences. Notwithstanding the youth of our nation, we have those among us in the various departments of knowledge, who have canvassed the deep depository of Truth, and given much science to the world, and the discovery of many arts to man. We have all the elements of becoming a greater people, a mightier nation, and more endurable government, than has ever held a place in the annals of time.

Oh, it will be the proud and happy day-spring of our country—the great and glorious era of our nation's prosperity, when the time arrives that shall make us *truly* an AMERICAN PEOPLE—indivisible in interest, and united in purpose. And to become so, it only requires that we should be JUST to all mankind, TRUE to ourselves, and DEVOTED to the Institutions of our land; and that we should immediately resolve ourselves into ONE in many, and many in ONE, NOW AND FOR EVER!

JOHN LLOYD, *President.*
LORA NASH, *Vice-President.*
WILLIAM L. PRALL, *Secretary.*
S. H. STUART, *Chairman of Com. on Address.*

NEW-YORK, *January*, 1845.

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